

BRITISH MOVE  
AHEAD AT LENS

Their Line South of That City Was Advanced During Night

CAMBRAI BATTLE  
WITHOUT RESULT

Local Fighting Took Place There Yesterday Afternoon

London, Jan. 4.—Local fighting took place yesterday afternoon on the Cambrai front without producing any material change in the situation, the war office reported to-day. "We advanced our line slightly during the night south of Lens," the statement adds.

QUARTER MILLION  
LOSS AT HOBOKEN

Firemen, Soldiers and Civilians Joined in Vigorous Fight Against Threatened Conflagration.

Hoboken, N. J., Jan. 4.—Firemen, soldiers and civilians, aided by New York fire boats and railroad tugs, brought a stubborn blaze under control after a fight of several hours in the heart of the industrial section paralleling the government controlled waterfront here to-day. A six-story manufacturing plant, containing paper and other mill supplies, was destroyed with an estimated loss of \$250,000.

Numerous small fires caused by sparks carried on a 40-mile wind were checked by soldiers and civilians. Fireboats prevented the flames from spreading to ships loaded with war supplies.

HIS ACTION  
NECESSARY

Declared President Wilson in Telling About Government Control of Railroads.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.—President Wilson laid before Congress in joint session to-day his recommendations for carrying out the government operation of railroads. Bills to carry out his ideas had been prepared and were introduced immediately, with plans for prompt consideration in both the House and the Senate.

After stating that he had taken over the railroads, the president said the step seemed necessary in the interest of the public welfare. It had become necessary, he declared, that only under government administration can the entire equipment of the several systems of transportation be fully and unreservedly thrown into common service with injurious discrimination.

SINGLE MEN TO BE TAKEN.  
And Those Who are Not Skilled Workmen, for the Army.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.—All men for the war armies still to be raised by the United States will come from Class One under the new selective service plan. That means the nation's fighting is to be done by young men without families dependent upon their labor for support and unskilled in necessary industrial or agricultural work.

Protest Marshal General Crowder announced the new policy in an exhaustive report upon the operation of the selective draft law submitted yesterday by Secretary Baker and sent to Congress. He says Class One should provide men for all military needs of the country and to accomplish that object he urges amendment of the draft law so as to provide that all men who have reached their 21st birthday since June 5, 1917, shall be required to register for classification. Also in the interest of fair distribution of the military burden, he proposes that the quotas or districts be determined hereafter on the basis of the number of men in Class One and not upon population.

STRUCK BY A LOG.  
Gilman Tubbs of Waterbury Was Quite Seriously Injured.

Waterbury, Jan. 4.—Gilman Tubbs, employed by C. E. Muzzey at drawing logs for the Waterbury Manufacturing company, met with a serious accident near Bolton Falls yesterday afternoon when a log, which was being loaded on a team, fell off and struck him. Tubbs was thrown into the snow and he received an injury to one leg and a bad cut on the head. The latter injury necessitated five stitches to close it. His condition was reported last night to be serious and he was no better to-day.

TO CLOSE MILLER'S INN.  
Montpelier Hotel Does Not Pay Profits Satisfactory to Owner.

E. S. Meigs of Montpelier announced to-day that at next Sunday night he will close the Miller's inn, Montpelier, which he purchased a year and a half ago of the William Miller estate. This action, Mr. Meigs explained, was due to the fact that he could not make profits satisfactory to him, due to the high cost of conducting a hotel. He also said the infantile paralysis outbreak last summer was injurious to the hotel business.

CAPITAL STOCK \$75,000.  
Charles E. Davis Foundry Co. of Rutland Incorporated.

The Charles E. Davis Foundry company, Inc., of Rutland, with a capital stock of \$75,000 have filed articles of incorporation in the secretary of state's office to do a general foundry business in that city. The subscribers are Charles E. Davis, Mary J. Mullin and J. N. Paige of Rutland.

## TO CURTAIL SERVICE.

Hundreds of Passenger Trains Are to Be Taken Off.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.—Hundreds of passenger trains on railroads east of the Mississippi will be withdrawn from service under orders soon to be issued by Director-General McAdoo, based upon specific recommendations made yesterday by a committee of eastern passenger traffic officers. The committee was divided as to the advisability of withdrawing most parlor and sleeping cars, leaving only those considered most necessary for important travel routes.

Hours of labor of railway employees under government operation was discussed by the director-general yesterday with heads of the four railway brotherhoods, and the question of wages will be taken up at further conferences to-day. The railway brotherhood leaders spent nearly three hours with the director-general, most of the time being devoted to discussing the possibility that the government may call on railway employees to work much over time in order to clear present freight congestion. This would involve extra wages, which the railroad administration is to be willing to pay on the basis of "time and a half," now maintained by railroads for overtime.

The brotherhoods' demands for 40 per cent higher wages, refused by railroads just before the government assumed management, were not pressed yesterday, but will be taken up to-day. Mr. McAdoo has not expressed his views on the subject of higher wages, but most of his advisers and executive assistants advocate such a course as a means of retaining employees.

The brotherhood chiefs here were W. S. Carter of the firemen, W. G. Lee of the trainmen and A. B. Garretson of the conductors, together with Vice-President H. E. Willis of the engineers, William Clark of the conductors, P. J. McNamara of the firemen and W. N. Doak of the trainmen.

ANCIENT HOTEL BURNED.  
The International at Niagara Falls Was Built in 1824.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., Jan. 4.—The International hotel, one of the landmarks of Niagara Falls, was destroyed by fire yesterday and the International theatre and adjoining building, was badly damaged. The damage is estimated at \$550,000, covered by insurance. One fireman suffered several broken ribs when a ladder fell, another fireman and a telephone lineman were overcome by smoke and are in hospitals.

The fire started in the kitchen of the hotel and spread rapidly to the top story. Then it worked around the L-shaped building to the front. Firemen from towns across the city Canadian border and from Buffalo helped the Niagara Falls department. A double wall separating the hotel from the theatre building prevented spread of the fire. It had been reported recently that the government was to take over the International hotel for use as a war hospital. The hotel, formerly the Eagle tavern, had a history dating back more than a century. General Lafayette, when he visited the United States in 1824, was entertained at the tavern, and many European royal families had visited the hotel. President McKinley took luncheon at the hotel on the day that he was assassinated in 1901. The hotel was rebuilt in 1845.

TO FIX COAL PRICE.  
Local Fuel Committees Are Given Power—There May Be an Appeal.

State Fuel Administrator H. J. M. Jones has sent a letter to local fuel committees throughout the state, in which he practically places the fixing of the prices in their hands, with an appeal to the administrator if need be. Mr. Jones says that "up to the present time, the cost of coal mining and of freight charges, it has not seemed advisable heretofore to fix the price at which retailers may sell coal locally, but to carry out the purpose of the federal fuel administrator, we now desire to fix such price, which price shall be determined as follows:

"1. Each local fuel committee is hereby directed to reconsider the price previously fixed by the Vermont fuel administrator, to revise such price in the judgment of said committee such recommended price and correlative data at once to said fuel administrator. In case any local fuel committee decides that its former recommendation of price should stand, said committee is hereby instructed to so inform said fuel administrator.

"2. Upon determination of price by a local fuel committee, and in accordance with the foregoing instructions, said committee is hereby directed to advise at once each local coal dealer within its town or city concerning the price recommended at which coal shall be sold within the town or city, and to date report on blank herewith enclosed, in case of revision of price, concurrent with date of notice given to each local coal dealer, or, in case it is decided to allow former price to stand, to date advice to this effect concurrent with date of notice given to each dealer.

"3. Such notice of recommended price, served by a local fuel committee on local coal dealers within its jurisdiction, shall automatically at midnight following such notice become the fixed price for the sale of coal within the jurisdiction of said local fuel committee, pending modification by the Vermont fuel administrator and approval by the United States fuel administrator.

"4. Any coal dealer may appeal from the price thus fixed to the Vermont fuel administrator for a modification of such price.

"5. The Vermont fuel administrator reserves the right to modify at any time and in any degree the price so fixed through recommendation of a local fuel committee, notice whereof will be furnished the dealers in each town or city in which the price is so modified.

"6. In case the copy of blank recommending previous price and correlative data, previously made to this office, has been mislaid by a local fuel committee, a duplicate can be obtained on application to this office."

MAY RECOGNIZE  
BOLSHEVIKI

Great Britain Is Said to Be More Favorably Disposed

FOLLOWING HALT  
IN PEACE PARLEY

London Newspaper Refers to the Probability of Action

London, Jan. 4.—Recognition of the Lenin government in Russia by the allies is probable, owing to developments in the Russo-German negotiations, according to the Daily Chronicle. The statement apparently is based on a contribution by a diplomatic correspondent, which says: "Owing to the Bolshevik discovery of German duplicity, anything may happen. The Germans may give way, or there may be a rupture of relations. The first is hardly likely in view of the Trotsky declaration. The second is possible, for the Germans are past masters of specious compromise, and the third is most probable.

"Russia may quite possibly witness a revival of the war, assuming such a situation, and the consolidation of the Bolshevik power, provided the failure to extract peace does not wreck the Lenin regime. Then recognition as a de facto government would follow.

Referring to the retirement of Sir George Buchanan, British ambassador to Russia, the writer says: "In his place would be sent a diplomat in marked sympathy with the ideas of revolutionary Russia."

## RUSSIAN COUNTER OFFER.

Will Be Discussed at Peace Conference Saturday.

London, Jan. 4.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Petrograd dated Wednesday, says: "The Russians now have made counter-proposals to the Teutonic allies which are under consideration and will be discussed at the next meeting of the peace delegations at Brest-Litovsk Saturday.

"The proposals embody the immediate evacuation of occupied territory pending a referendum, the evacuated districts to be governed by locally elected representatives of the people, who are to be assisted by the local militia."

TRAINMAN KILLED;  
TWO OTHERS HURT

Crown Sheet on Boston & Maine Railroad Blew Out Between Lakeport and The Weirs.

Lakeport, N. H., Jan. 4.—Levi J. Morway, an apprentice fireman, was killed and Engineer A. P. Lake and Fireman J. P. Collins were badly injured by the blowing out of the crown sheet on Boston & Maine locomotive between here and The Weirs to-day.

CHIEFS RAISED JOINTLY  
By Winnetta Council and Iroquois Tribe Last Night.

At the regular meeting of Winnetta council, No. 10, last evening, the joint raising of chiefs took place as follows: The chiefs for Winnetta council were Nellie Bianchi, Pocahontas; Isabella Thompson, prophetess; Christina Jeffrey, Wenonah; Peter Brown, Powhatan; Annie Brown, keeper of records; Alice Bretz, 34 Summer street, collector of wampum; Mary Walker, collector of wampum; Annie Greig, guard of forest; Mary A. Webster, guard of temple; Mary Angus, first scout; Jessie Gould, second scout; Margaret Ingram, first runner; Jessie Taylor, second runner; Elsie Geals, first council; Katherine Taylor, second council; mystery ladies, Nellie Manson and Mary Ann Reid; warriors, first Lizzie McDonald, second Christie Brown, third Barbara Mowatt, fourth Rose Carminia; braves, first W. W. Russell, second Alex Cormack, third Alex Porter, fourth James McDonald.

The chiefs of Iroquois tribe, No. 16, are: Sachem, Harry Blanchard, junior saganore, Harry Blanchard; junior saganore, James Freeland; prophet, Alex F. Miller; chief of records, Ira E. Wright, box 64, South Barre, phone 384; collector of wampum, Peter Brown, 7 Kirk street; keeper of wampum, W. W. Russell; guard of wampum, Andrew Freeland; guard of forest, James Taylor; saganore, first Alex Moir, second Alex and Cormack; warriors, first Alex Porter, second Floyd Holt, third James Myers, fourth John Milne; braves, first William K. Taylor, second Raymond Blanchard, third Joe C. Cassellini, fourth George Norrie. Examining physician for both the tribe and council, Dr. Wark.

The chiefs of the council were raised to their respective stations by Deputy Mary Ann Angus, assisted by Past Pocahontas Annabella Cormack. The chiefs of the tribe were raised by Deputy George Brand, assisted by Past Sachem William Walker.

At the close of the raising ceremonies, refreshments were served and dancing followed until midnight, which was enjoyed by a large crowd. Music was furnished by the Red Men's orchestra.

## IN CHANCERY COURT.

Custody of Child Is Granted to A. W. Noyes.

In chancery court at Montpelier to-day the custody of the minor child in the Noyes vs. Noyes divorce case was granted to A. W. Noyes. During the litigation over the matter, the child has been placed in a private family.

In the foreclosure case of the Granite Savings Bank & Trust company against Joseph D. and Mrs. Osola of Barre, the court shortened the redemption time from one year to 60 days. It was stated that the property was unoccupied and both parties had left the state.

A date for filing exceptions was fixed in the case of O'Leary vs. Montpelier & Wells River R. R.

## LIFE AT CAMP GREENE.

Barre Boy Writes of Being Well Treated There.

Private Clarence J. Bartlett of Co. C, 1st Vermont infantry, now at Camp Greene, Charlotte, N. C., writes his aunt, Mrs. W. E. Perkins of 45 Elm street, this city, that the boys are being well treated in that camp and that they are enjoying their army life.

He writes in part as follows: "Well, I have just been out for a walk, bare-headed, and in my shirt sleeves, something I never did before on the night before Christmas. But you can't do it at home to-night. Oh, this is great down here—nice warm days and cold nights. A week ago you would not think this was the Sunny South for we had six or eight inches of snow and it was down to zero for three or four nights—the first snow they have had here for 27 years—but it is very nice now.

We had a dandy trip down here; went through lots of big cities and saw lots of interest. We were in Washington, D. C., an hour and a half; but it was between 12 o'clock and 1:30 in the night. The Red Cross served us with hot coffee and sandwiches. Everybody was awful good to us.

"It is almost like being at home here compared with Fort Slocum. It surely does seem good to get back with the Vermont boys. I was surprised when I got here for two of the sergeants are Barre boys that I knew, so I am lucky. We have a good tent to sleep in, good stove and electric lights. Some class."

"The best part of this camp is the food and that is surely good. We have all we want to eat and it is really good. To-day for noon mess we had pork steak, boiled potatoes, green peas, chocolate pudding, bread, rolls and butter and coffee. They want you to have all you want to eat; so if we don't get enough at the first helping we go back for another. For supper we have coffee, warmed up potato, sauce, soup, bread and butter, or else we have beans in place of the potato and soup. For breakfast we have either oatmeal or cornflakes, potatoes and meat, bread, coffee. Well I guess I'll go to bed now and write some more to-morrow."

Writing the next day, Private Bartlett mentioned the splendid Christmas dinner they had in camp. "Christmas dinner over, and say, we had a real dinner: Turkey, sweet potatoes, dressing, giblet gravy, cranberry sauce, rice pudding, mince pie, cheese, coffee, apples, candy, gum, cigars and cigarettes."

## NEVER FELT BETTER.

Harry Levin of Barre Writes Home from France.

The following letter is from Harry Levin to Joe Kovalsky of this city: "Somewhere in France, Dec. 12, 1917.

Dear Friend Joe: Just received your letter and believe me, I was very pleased to hear from you. Glad you and your family are all well, as it leaves me at present. Joe, I never felt better in my life; plenty to eat and a good place to sleep, so why should I worry about myself? I just received two letters from my folks. Glad to hear that they are all well. To-day is the first day that it has been snowing. Snow yet, Joe, I am afraid that when I get home I will take all your trade away. I am getting to be some tailor, pressing my own clothes and sewing them up, so look out. Everything is high here and it takes a lot of money if you want anything.

I have not received your box yet, but I will have it in advance. Best regards to all.

Harry.

## ON SAVING FUEL.

State Fuel Administrator Is Sending Out Instructions.

Soon the state fuel administrator will cause to be distributed directions for the operation of ranges, furnaces and boilers, and for the use of stoves. These are designed to further conservation, the administrator, H. J. M. Jones, with the local fuel committees, will seek the cooperation of school children. Already here in Barre manufacturers are in receipt of posters to be placed in a conspicuous spot in or near their boiler rooms, and when the schools re-open, if not before, the youngsters will be asked to carry home the gospel of fuel conservation in the form of printed instructions, hints and suggestions.

Here is the prefatory explanation: "The army and navy are burning millions of tons of coal, patrolling the ocean and keeping a steady stream of men and supplies moving across the Atlantic. The munition factories and other plants are working day and night, turning out supplies, and are burning huge quantities of coal. Our railroads are overtaxed moving the raw materials, food and munitions needed by the army and navy. Miners are scarce, many have gone across, and others are building ships, helping in the steel plants and doing other needed work. You can help a lot, right at home. Half a ton saved in every home means ten million tons saved for the war. It means more men to fight on the line or behind the line for Uncle Sam.

"How to save: Burn wood, oil and gas in place of coal for cooking and heating, whenever possible. Keep your house as much below 70 degrees as your conditions allow. In rooms where special heat is required use wood fires, oil, gas or electric heaters. Shut off the heat in unoccupied rooms and in bedrooms where windows are left open at night, whenever there is no danger of freezing pipes. Make the house tight. Mend broken window panes. Put on weather strips. If you have double windows, put them on. Pull down the window shades at dusk. A drawn shade acts like a double window in keeping out the cold to a surprisingly large degree. Raise the shades when the sun is shining. It is followed by sunlight, which is enjoyed by a larger crowd. Music was furnished by the Red Men's orchestra.

Neither of the sleds which bore the hay rack was badly damaged, although the frame work of the sleds was smashed. The sleds were being used by Mr. Boulter to haul hay to the city, and were returning to Westerville after delivering a load here in the city, when the sleds were on the side of the rack and when the car came along the horse reared so suddenly that he did not have time to brace himself. Previous to to-day's accident, Mr. Boulter's left leg had been fractured twice.

WANTS NEWS FROM HOME.  
Sergt. F. R. Cerasoli Writes to Mother from France.

Mrs. Pauline Cerasoli has received the following letter from her son, Sergt. F. R. Cerasoli, who is with the American expeditionary forces in France:

Dec. 11, 1917.

Dear Mother and All: I hope you are all feeling good these days. I am feeling good and I am in good spirits. I like the country over here very much. We had a great Thanksgiving dinner. I am sending you a menu of what we had to eat. Did you receive the money I sent you? Let me know. Buy John a scout suit for Christmas.

If you see anything in the paper that you think would interest me, send the piece to me, because I would like to read them. Is there anything special that you would like to get over here? Let me know.

One satisfaction, I am learning to speak French fast. I'll be able to speak French in a little while. How are Bertina and Johnnie getting along at school? Have you heard from Joe? Let me know something about Joe. Is it raining feeling good? Give a kiss to Martha for me. I hope this letter finds the family in good health and spirits. I hope you had a merry Christmas and happy New Year. Give my regards to everybody. Hoping to hear from you soon. Your son,

F. R. Cerasoli.

DRIVER'S LEG BROKEN.  
When His Horse Threw Him Against Pole.

Felix Boulter, a Westerville farmer, sustained a fracture of the left leg late this morning when his horse, attached to a light hay rack, took fright at a street car on South Main street and threw the driver against a telephone pole in front of F. A. Slayton's residence. The accident was witnessed by the motor-man, who stopped his car. At the same time men from the fire station down the street ran to the farmer's assistance, and the first to reach him being Chief Gladding, W. H. Ward and the driver of the department pump. When they arrived the man lay in the street and as they lifted him to an improvised cot, the injured leg hung limp.

No doctor was called until the man had been removed to the City hospital. A cold wind was blowing from the north, and men who had stood by Boulter's accident, were anxious to shelter him as soon as possible. He was warmly clad and the trip to the hospital was not delayed. It is not thought that the brief exposure will postpone his recovery.

Neither of the sleds which bore the hay rack was badly damaged, although the frame work of the sleds was smashed. The sleds were being used by Mr. Boulter to haul hay to the city, and were returning to Westerville after delivering a load here in the city, when the sleds were on the side of the rack and when the car came along the horse reared so suddenly that he did not have time to brace himself. Previous to to-day's accident, Mr. Boulter's left leg had been fractured twice.

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REPORT SEEING  
ROBIN ON JAN. 2.

Waterbury, Jan. 4.—Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Parcher report that while they were driving in the vicinity of the Three-Mile bridge on Wednesday, Jan. 2, they saw a robin.

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NEW CABINET  
DEPARTMENT

Proposed to Have General Charge of War Materials

BILL INTRODUCED  
IN THE SENATE

Proposal Is to Let It Run for One Year After the War

Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.—A department of munitions under a new cabinet head, known as the secretary of armaments, is proposed in a bill introduced to-day by Chairman Chamberlain of the Senate military committee as a result of its investigation of war operations. The new war department would operate during the war and one year thereafter. The bill has the backing of the Senate committee and will be strongly pressed.

The new secretary would have power under the president's direction to control arms, ammunition, food, clothing, equipment, transportation and other material as munitions of war. Government bureaus, agencies and funds necessary would be transferred to the new department, which contemplates control of naval as well as army supplies.

## LITTLE TO DO.

Supreme Court Took Recess Till Tuesday Morning.

Supreme court held a short session this morning and then adjourned until 9:30 o'clock Tuesday morning. A hurried survey of the docket indicates that five cases for hearing. Nearly every one of those left for hearing when the docket was called Wednesday morning, was continued this morning when the docket was called again, with but five attorneys, two from Orleans and three from Washington counties attending.

Those cases known to be set for hearing are State vs. Warm of Franklin county, the date of which is not fixed, while that of State vs. Ketchum, is set for next Tuesday morning, to be followed by the Orleans county case of Seaver vs. Lang. In Washington county the case in regard to E. H. Cole was left for hearing, while the case of McDonald vs. McNeil is left open for advice as to continuance, because the attorneys are interested in the selective draft work.

Apparently the court took into consideration the fact that many of the attorneys are busy assisting the conscript men making out questionnaires, for some cases were continued that under the ordinary manner would be disposed of otherwise.

The following cases in Windsor county were disposed of by agreement to submit them on briefs: State vs. Avoli, liquor; State vs. Ceresa, liquor; State vs. Eaton, adultery; State vs. Rossi, liquor.

In Chittenden county the following cases were set for hearing: State vs. Hefflon vs. Cashman, Trask vs. Fountain, Trask vs. Kelleher. In the case of Grafton vs. State Auditor, the plaintiff's being in military service of the country, was suggested.

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Those cases known to be set for hearing are State vs. Warm of Franklin county, the date of which is not fixed, while that of State vs. Ketchum, is set for next Tuesday morning, to be followed by the Orleans county case of Seaver vs. Lang. In Washington county the case in regard to E. H. Cole was left for hearing, while the case of McDonald vs. McNeil is left open for advice as to continuance, because the attorneys are interested in the selective draft work.

Apparently the court took into consideration the fact that many of the attorneys are busy assisting the conscript men making out questionnaires, for some cases were continued that under the ordinary manner would be disposed of otherwise.

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